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Live Public Comment at Virtual Meetings of County Board Committees to Start in March

MILWAUKEE – Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson announced today that beginning with the <u>March 2021 meeting cycle</u>, the Board of Supervisors is inviting the public to comment live during virtual meetings of all standing committees.

"Public input and participation is integral to the legislative process, and the public should be able to fully participate in meetings of the Board of Supervisors - regardless of whether we are meeting virtually or in-person," said **Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson**. "I'm proud to announce that we are now able to include live public comment at committee meetings while we continue to prioritize the health and safety of Supervisors, staff, and the public by meeting virtually."

Public comment, normally a standard part of all committee meetings, had been limited due to technological barriers presented by meeting remotely during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Chairwoman Nicholson directed county staff to find a solution and ensure that the public could once again provide live public comment in real time during all committee meetings.

Anyone who wishes to comment can join committee meetings from home, or, if they don't have access to an internet capable device, they can join remotely from the Courthouse.

Advance registration is requested. Anyone wishing to provide public comment can register in advance at <u>county.milwaukee.gov/testify</u>. Public comment is limited to two minutes.

Members of the public who wish to *watch* committee meetings in real time *but do not want to speak* can do so by following the livestream of the meeting at <u>milwaukeecounty.legistar.com</u>.

The March committee cycle begins with the <u>Personnel Committee</u> on Tuesday, March 9, the <u>Transportation, Transit and Public Works Committee</u> on March 10, the <u>Judiciary, Safety and General Services Committee</u> on March 11, the <u>Economic and Community Development Committee</u> on March 15, the <u>Parks, Energy and Environment Committee</u> on March 16, the <u>Audit Committee</u> on March 17, and the <u>Finance Committee</u> on March 18.